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John Brown Journal

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John Brown journal

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Summary Information

Repository	Ouachita Baptist University Library
Title	John Brown journal
Date [inclusive]	1821-1865
Extent	0.5 Cubic feet 1 flat archive box 1 reel microfilm
Language	English
Language of Materials	English

Preferred Citation

John Brown Journal. Riley-Hickingbotham Library Archives and Special Collections, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

Biographical/Historical note

John William Brown was a lawyer, merchant, planter, and businessman, born in Tennessee and educated at Louisville, Kentucky. Brown moved to Arkansas after living for a time in Memphis, Tennessee, and practicing law there. He tried running a plantation in Dallas County for a while, but then moved to Camden in the 1850s. Brown married Clara Walker Coleman in 1832, in Hernando, Mississippi. The couple had seven children.

When the Civil War broke out, Brown remained in Camden and recorded his observations about daily activities and the community, including the Federal occupation of the town in April of 1864. Brown's diary has been quoted many times in various articles and books, but has never been published in its entirety. The original diary belongs to the Arkansas History Commission.

Scope and Contents

This journal records John Brown's observations from 1821-1822, before he moved to Arkansas, as well as from 1852-1865, when Brown lived in Dallas and Ouachita counties. He also included transcripts of letters he wrote to his brother William in the 1820s. The original diary may be viewed on microfilm produced by the Arkansas History Commission. A separate transcription includes explanatory notes and drawings added by a descendant.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Ouachita Baptist University Library

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research. Manuscripts may only be photocopied by Special Collections staff.

Conditions Governing Use

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Collection Inventory

		Box
1821-1822		1
		Reel
1852-1865		973.68 B878d